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Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
Seventh meeting
Geneva, 4–15 May 2015
Item 5 (g) of the provisional agenda*

Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: financial resources and mechanisms

Executive summary of the report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants at its seventh meeting

Note by the Secretariat

1. As referred to in the note by the Secretariat on the report on the effectiveness of the implementation of the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Council of the Global Environment Facility (UNEP/POPS/COP.7/22), the executive summary of the report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting is set out in the annex to the present note. The executive summary is reproduced as received, without formal editing.

2. The full report is reproduced in document UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/33 and should be considered in conjunction with the present note.

* UNEP/POPS/COP.7/1.

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Annex

Report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants at its seventh meeting

30/12/2014

Executive Summary

1. Pursuant to Decision SC-1/9, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), on an interim basis as the principal entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism of the Stockholm Convention, hereby submits to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) its report on activities undertaken during the period from September 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014, in response to convention guidance.

2. The report includes activities undertaken by the GEF that relate to the implementation of the Stockholm Convention, with an emphasis on how the GEF has applied the guidance from the COP. The report also provides an update to the Parties on the conclusion of the GEF 6 replenishment and the 5th GEF assembly. The report also gives details on the wider work of the GEF on Chemicals.

3. At the request of the sixth Conference of the Parties in decision SC6/20 this report consolidates the response to all guidance received by the GEF from the COP. This is presented in Annex 1 to the report[1].

4. The report provides information on the multi chemical issue projects and cross focal work that received funding under the Chemicals Strategy in GEF-5.

5. During the reporting period 32 full-sized projects (FSPs) and 22 medium-sized projects (MSPs) were approved. Additionally 46 requests for the development or update of National Implementation Plans (NIP) were approved during this period.

6. The GEF invested $200 million in the POPs portfolio during the reporting period. In addition, over $670 million was leveraged from other sources such as recipient countries, GEF agencies, bilateral partners, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, etc. This represents a leveraging ratio of 1:3 between the GEF project grant and other resources.

7. It is expected that the projects that have been funded during the reporting period will dispose of over 6900 tonnes of obsolete POPs/Pesticides, over 13,390 tonnes of PCB, avoid the use of over 2500 tonnes/yr of DDT while introducing safe alternatives to enable control of malaria, and reduce over 660 g-TEQ/yr of UPOPs emissions. The projects will also support the training in handling and management of POPS for over 160 staff in different counties, 30 institutions and 50 communities.

8. During this period the GEF continued its support of the Global Monitoring Plans by approving 3 regional projects to strengthen the capacity in these regions to monitor the new POPs.

9. The total pledge in GEF-5 for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention was $375 million. During the reporting period the amount committed to projects brings the utilization of resources to 98% or $368 Million.

10. As of June 30, 2014, the GEF has committed $889 million to projects in the POPs focal area since the adoption of the Stockholm Convention in May 2001. This cumulative GEF POPs investment has leveraged approximately $2.4 billion in co-financing to bring the total value of the GEF POPs portfolio to over $3 billion.

11. In May 2014 the GEF 6 replenishment was endorsed by the GEF Assembly. The Chemicals and Waste focal area received a record funding level, at $554 million. The overall 6th replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund was a record level of $4.43 billion.

[1] See document UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/33.

12. The 5th GEF assembly reformed the focal area structure of the GEF. It removed the POPS and ODS focal areas and replaced them with a Chemicals and Waste Focal Area that includes, POPS, ODS, Mercury and SAICM. The GEF 6 programming strategy is consistent with this new focal area.

13. The GEF's long term strategic vision, GEF 2020 was also endorsed by the GEF Assembly and will be implemented throughout GEF 6 and beyond.